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In its recently ratified Constitution, New

Hampshire makes it necessary for those

who would vote to be able to read and

write. The educational qualification has

not been defeated in any State in which

it has been submitted to the people.

A little while ago it was discovered that

most of the boys in the high school of an

Indiana city carried concealed weapons,

and now it develops that many of the girls

in another high school smoke cigarettes.

What are the parents of Indiana children

doing?

The anthracite coal production during the

month of February was 5,070,938 tons,

as compared with 5,741,233 tons for the same

month in 1902. The shipments during last

month were the largest in the history of

anthracite mining. The operators, miners

and railroads are now working together to

make up the shortage caused by the strike.

A New York paper announces that Miss

Nera Stanton Blatch, granddaughter of the

late Elizabeth Cady Stanton, "will take

up the work of her grandmother," and

adds: "She was the first and only woman

to enter the civil engineering department

of Cornell University." Let's see. Did

Mrs. Stanton find it necessary to take a

course of civil engineering before she un-

dertook to promote the cause of woman

suffrage?

The statement of several papers that Mr.

Robert G. Hendrick, who died in this city

a few days ago, was commissioner of In-

dian affairs under President Lincoln was

erroneous. He may have held some position

in the office during that period, but no

person of that name was ever commissioner

of Indian affairs. The commissioner of

Indian affairs from the beginning of Mr.

Lincoln's administration until his death

was William P. Dole, of Illinois.

Mayor Harrison had no opposition for

mayor of Chicago in the Democratic

primary yesterday, not because the ma-

jority of that party desires his re-election,

but because his gang of place-holders, in-

cluding the police, were able to man all the

precincts and vote the loose and lawless

element for Harrison delegates. As a mat-

ter of fact, most of the influential leaders

would like to see Harrison defeated. The

hold which the municipal administrations

of several cities has upon the vicious class

gives them power to extend their reign re-

gardless of the wishes of the majority of

their parties having no organization nor

apparent power of concentration.

Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, British colonial

secretary, seems to have had an en-

thusiastic popular reception on his return

to England from South Africa. If unwor-

thy devotion to British interests and main-

tenance of the imperial policy during a

costly war, and since, entitle a minister to

popular recognition, Mr. Chamberlain cer-

tainly deserves it. His trip to South Africa

for the purpose of placating the Boers and

establishing British authority was an un-

usual step for a minister to take and re-

cent dispatches have indicated that he ac-

complished important results. At present

Mr. Chamberlain has no title, but it would

not be surprising if a high one is conferred

upon him.

A petition quite numerously signed has

been presented to President Roosevelt ur-

ging him to recommend to Congress the

enactment of a law establishing popular

suffrage in the District of Columbia. Such

a step would not be a new departure. Prior

to 1874 a territorial form of government existed in the District, and the residents of Washington elected mayor and other municipal officers. Since 1874 the District has been governed by a nonpartisan board of commissioners, consisting of one Republican, one Democrat and an army engineer officer appointed by the President. It is generally conceded that the city is well governed, but many of its residents do not like the idea of having no voice in local government. It is not likely, however, that any change will be made. Universal suffrage has not worked so well in other American cities as to give it much claim for adoption in the national capital.

That little clause in the Constitution of the United States giving Congress power "to regulate commerce among the several States" has grown broad and potential beyond anything the framers of the Constitution could have dreamed of. When it was adopted there were only thirteen States in the Union and the commerce among them amounted to very little. Now the States embrace the continent, and interstate commerce, both by land and water, is beyond

computation in bulk and value. The main object of the provision when it was adopted was to prevent any State from imposing a discriminating tax on the products of another State. Now it is construed to give Congress power to prevent any kind of interference with interstate commerce. It is a necessary power, and in applying it to new conditions the courts have not gone beyond the spirit and intent of the original provision, although present conditions never entered into the minds of the framers of the Constitution.

STUDENT LAWLESSNESS.

The students at Purdue University who disturbed the peace of Lafayette last week should be taught that when they matriculated at a great school they received no license to violate the law. Freshmen are too prone to believe that when they are admitted to a college or university they obtain privileges the common citizen does not enjoy. This is evidenced in many ways, such as the painting of statues, the torturing and kidnapping of fellow-students, the breaking up of class banquets, the holding of riotous celebrations in honor of athletic victories, the stealing of steps, fences and boxes to be used as fuel for bonfires, and the wanton smashing of windows and breaking down of doors. These are all offenses against the law, punishable with fine or imprisonment, and when the civil authorities wink at them as college pranks they are sowing trouble that is sure to be reaped in riot like the Lafayette outbreak. It took the authorities of New Haven a score or more of years to learn that the under class men of Yale had no privileges not enjoyed by the ordinary citizen. Now the disorderly student is treated like a lawbreaker. If he destroys property or creates a disturbance he is arrested and punished. As a result of this policy rowdyism has almost ceased. So in New York, where students were once wont to celebrate athletic victories by "painting the town red"—taking possession of streets, smashing everything breakable and terrorizing restaurant keepers. At Cambridge also the reign of the lawless Harvard student has ended. And so it should be at Purdue, and will be if the Lafayette prosecutor does his full duty in the present riot case.

It is not possible nor desirable for the college officials to exercise police powers beyond the campus, and it is questionable whether the wholesale expulsion or suspension of classes for the disorderly conduct of a few students will remedy the evil. In fact, the unmerited punishment of one youth will work more harm in school discipline than the nonpunishment of the guilty, for students are prompt to resent injustice, and their code of honor does not permit telling on one another. They may confess their own guiltiness in wrongdoing when pressed, but they will implicate no others; therefore, it is better for the civil authorities to deal with them. A capable prosecutor and a grand jury that is not afraid to do its duty can do more to break up student lawlessness than a faculty of Solomon endowed with modern wisdom. Fine and moderate imprisonment, with the attending disgrace, are more to be feared than suspension or even expulsion. No young man studying for a profession desires to have his future clouded with a police record, and the knowledge that he certainly will be arrested and fined if his pranks fracture the law will order him from going beyond the limit of orderly conduct.

The Journal believes that a moderate display of school spirit is commendable. College songs and yells, shouts and cheers, harmless class "scraps" on the campus and interclass rivalry in the painting of numerals on tanks, etc., are sufficient vents for college enthusiasm and less of a drain on the pocketbooks of parents than wilful destruction of other people's property. It is to be regretted, however, that many young men do not see the matter in this light, and probably will not until they get a taste of criminal court justice. Students, whether freshmen or sophomores, should set an example in obeying law instead of defying it.

ARGENTINA AND THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

The recent communication of the Argentine Republic relative to the Monroe doctrine seems to have caused some misapprehension abroad as well as in this country. The first construction of the matter by the press of the United States was that Argentina had proposed to the United States the formation of an alliance in support of the Monroe doctrine and of the principle that debts due by American nations to non-American nations shall not be collected by force. This statement caused the German ambassador at Washington to call at the State Department to inquire if it was true. It is somewhat remarkable, by the way, how keenly alert the German government is to every construction and application of the Monroe doctrine. That government cannot possibly afford any European nation that does not undertake to violate it. The communication of the Argentine Republic through its minister at Washington did not propose any sort of an alliance with the United States in support of the Monroe doctrine. It was a practical recognition of the justice and benefits of the doctrine, but its main object was to state the views of the Argentine government relative to the compulsory collection of public debts of American states by European nations. It was represented that this practice by the great powers involved constant danger to weak states. As the Argentine minister of foreign relations put it: "The compulsory and immediate demand for payment at a given moment of a public debt by means of force would not produce other than the ruin of the weaker nations and the absorption of their government altogether, with all its inherent faculties, by the powerful nations of the earth." The Argentine government did not justify South American states in incurring debts which they could not pay, nor did it deny the right of European nations to protect their subjects against persecution or injustice. "The only thing that the Argentine Republic maintains," said the minister, "is the principle already accepted that there cannot be European territorial expansion in America or oppression of the people of this continent because their unfortunate financial condition might oblige one of them to put off the fulfillment of its obligations. The principle which we maintain is that a public debt cannot give rise to an armed intervention, and much less to the territorial occupation of the soil of American nations by any European power."

The United States has never gone so far as to construe the Monroe doctrine as meaning that a public debt cannot justify a forcible demonstration or armed intervention to compel its payment. On the con-

trary, it has on different occasions permitted and tacitly justified such measures. It holds that all nations should pay their just debts, and if they refuse or fail to do so forcible measures may be used to compel them. The extent to which it has gone in constraining the Monroe doctrine is that under no circumstances nor under any pretext shall any European power make a permanent seizure or occupation of American territory. This construction of the doctrine was clearly set forth in President Roosevelt's annual messages of 1901 and 1902, to which Secretary Hay referred the Argentine government. In as far as the latter sought to induce the United States to give a new construction to the Monroe doctrine, preventing the use of force to compel South American nations to pay their just debts, it failed. Nevertheless the statement was a formal recognition of the doctrine by Argentina, and the first that has been made by a South American government. The recognition of the doctrine by one of the most progressive states of South America will tend to strengthen it as a principle of American public law.

TWO GREAT ENTERPRISES.

It is probable that the two greatest engineering enterprises of the twentieth century, and, perhaps, to be consummated in the first quarter of it, will be the Panama canal and an international railroad connecting North and South America. The construction of the canal by the United States is now as certain as anything in the future can be. The treaty with Colombia will be ratified in a few days, and President Roosevelt will then have a free hand to appoint a commission and make final arrangements for the prosecution of the work. Once begun, its completion will only be a question of comparatively a few years. There is no other engineering enterprise now under consideration or in prospect in any part of the world at all comparable to it in magnitude and importance. It is regarded with great interest by all civilized nations, and its construction and control by the United States will add greatly to its prestige as a world power and to its undisputed and beneficent domination of the western hemisphere. In addition to the immense strategic and commercial importance of the canal it will greatly strengthen the Monroe doctrine and tend to promote friendly relations between the United States and the states of Central and South America. The leading newspaper of Buenos Aires, recently had an editorial on "The United States and the Panama Canal," in which it said:

"Since the celebrated message of Monroe the United States has not accomplished an act of greater significance than the treaty with Colombia for the construction of the Panama canal. This act tends to assert the principle of its continental policy with regard to Europe, and at the same time it contains its protest against the opening of the projected road for navigation, which was to exercise an immense influence over the world's traffic. This act tends to assert the principle of its continental policy with regard to Europe, and at the same time it contains its protest against the opening of the projected road for navigation, which was to exercise an immense influence over the world's traffic. This act tends to assert the principle of its continental policy with regard to Europe, and at the same time it contains its protest against the opening of the projected road for navigation, which was to exercise an immense influence over the world's traffic. 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